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News Items

Telephone

The *084 toll area* was recently *integrated* into the 081 area. This is the fourth toll area consolidation in the Chur telecommunications region.

Direct telephone links were put into operation again with *Kuwait*. These lines had been closed down since the beginning of the Golf War.

Teleinformatics

The first subscriber lines of the *Brig* and *Visp* communications communities were put into operation within the framework of the *Oberwallis broad band network* project.

A further *video conference studio* was opened at the main office of the *Rapperswil* telecommunications region.

Radio, Television, Radiocommunications

The following *permanent microwave radio links* were put into operation: in the connection network *Euseigne–Mase* with a transmission capacity of 34 Mbit/s; for the supply of the Natel C base stations *Bütschwil–Ganterschwil, Céligny–La Dôle, Eclépens–La Sarraz, Hellikon–Zeiningen, Oberhofen–Mettau, Oberriet–Rüthi, Welschenrohr–Welschenrohr/base station* and *Winterthur–Ossingen* with a capacity of 4 × 2 Mbit/s each as well as for the Baskom pilot network the *Basel/Grosspeter–Schulhaus Gellert* broad band connection (140 Mbit/s) which is available for about 12 months. In addition both the *Zürich/Selnau–Zürich/Dietzingerstrasse* and the *Zürich/Herdern–Zürich/Döltschiweg* temporary microwave links were put into operation with a transmission capacity of 4 x 2 Mbit/s each.

The following *Intelsat satellite links* were set up via the Leuk earth station: a voice circuit of the SSTDMA type (Satellite Switching Time Division Multiple Access) with the Arab Emirates (60° E), eight voice and one telex circuit of the same type with *Nigeria* (335.5° E), 15 voice circuits of the IDR type (Intermediate Data Rate) with *Chile* (335.5° E) and eight FDMA voice circuits (Frequency Division Multiple Access) with *Uruguay* (333.5° E).

A pilot service of the local radio *Power station* was set up on the *Uetliberg*. Radio Power Station was received on 101.8 Mhz. The test lasted one month.

The broadcasting service of the *Monte Ceneri-Cima* and *Sarnen* (Reserve) medium wave transmitters on the 1566 kHz frequency was put out of operation.

Three new *television transposers* were put into operation on the *Surin* and *Wyssachen* stations. They supply Lumbrein, Surin, Vrin as well as Dürrenbüel, and Dürrenroth, Schwarzenbach and Wyssachen, respectively, on the Channels 48 (SF DRS), 40 (TRS) and 30 (TSI) or 41, 44 and 58 respectively.

In addition to the microwave radio distribution links for the three language regions (German, French and Italian parts of Switzerland), additional microwave links from the Zurich studio to the Lugano and Geneva regional studios were put into operation for the field test of the new *television programme S plus*. This new distribution network over the GAZ programme distribution service, which is for the present composed of *26 radio links and 15 AM distributors,* can already supply about 1.75 million (70%) television households in Switzerland with S plus. A coverage of 78% will be reached by the end of 1994 with the additional terrestrial filling stations for non cabled regions. The official programme and broadcasting service of S plus will be put into operation on 27 August 1993.

The following towns were newly made accessible with one *transmitter installation* each for the *Telepage Swiss* radio paging service: *Court, Gempenfluh, Morechtchopf, Unterägeri* and *Zeiningen.*

Miscellaneous

The *existing 55-year-old cable in the Lake of Zurich* was replaced at the same time as the construction of the sewage pipe between the Island of Ufenau and Pfäffikon-Unterdorf.

Recently the technical and operational *management of the Telecom repair shops* changed hands to the Thun telecommunications office, *Service Center Repair*. The servicing activity of the former workshops will be taken over after a transfer plan by the end of 1994 within the framework of the 'workshops project in the Telecom field of telecommunications offices'.

After the reorganization of the International Telecommunication Union UIT, the first *World Telecommunication Standards Conference WTSC,* which took over the role of the CCITT plenary assembly, took place in Helsinki. The conference was marked by the change and the new orientation of the UIT, the new aims, names and abbreviations as well as the adaptation of the scope of duties between the Radio Communications Sector RS (formerly CCIR) and the Telecommunications Standardization Sector TSS (formerly CCITT). The reports of the study commissions and thus the recommendations worked out and put forward for approval by these commissions were accepted without long discussion, apart from a few exceptions. In addition to reviewing the mandate of the 15 study commissions, a new advisory group was established, the TSGA (Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group). This group, which is open to all members of the UIT, is to supervise the direction of study, the priorities and the work routine of the study commissions and, if need be, intervene to coordinate. There was much to be said about the delegation of parts of existing CCIR questions in the area of TSS. Thus the primary aim will be pursued to concentrate on all standard activities, be it in the wired or in the wireless area, in the TSS sector. The transfer of this work is considerably difficult as probably a longer transition phase must be taken into consideration.